

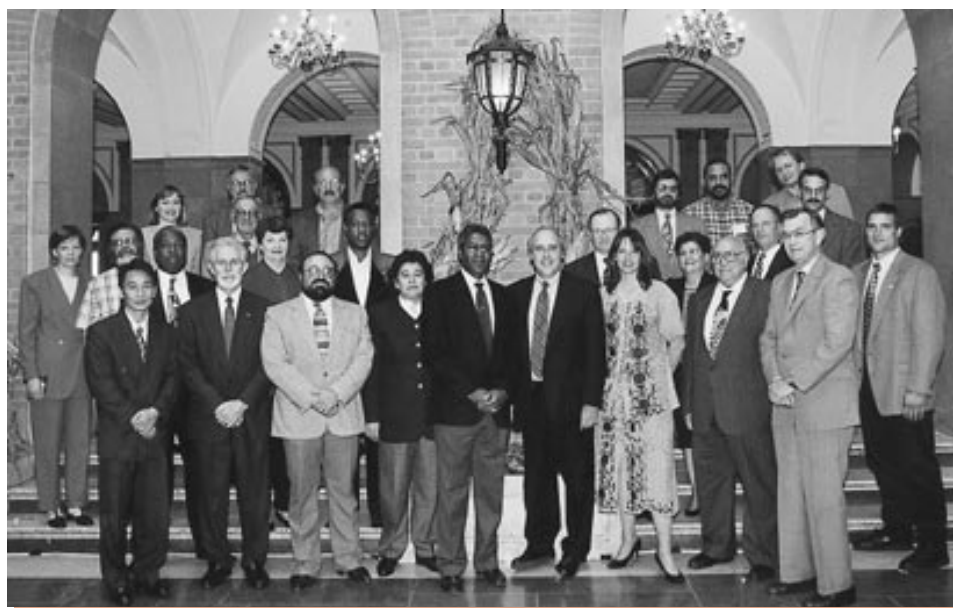
## WIC Farmers Market Funding Is Increased

**A**griculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced a substantial increase in funding February 18 for the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program—awarding \$12 million in grants to 32 States, the District of Columbia, and two Indian tribal organizations. The grants represent an increase of \$5.25 million from last year.

“Our action today demonstrates the Administration’s commitment both to at-risk mothers and children and to farmers markets and small and limited-resource farmers,” Secretary Glickman said. Expansion of the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program to every State was among the recommendations issued recently by the USDA National Commission on Small Farms.

The fiscal year 1998 increase allowed USDA to make new grants to five States: Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi. More than 1 million WIC participants currently receive farmers market benefits to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables from America’s 8,200 farmers markets.

WIC—the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children—provides its clients with food, nutrition counseling, and access to health services. The program also provides Federal grants to States for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant women, mothers, and children at nutritional risk. ■



USDA Secretary Dan Glickman with the USDA National Commission on Small Farms in Washington, DC, on October 14, 1997. —USDA PHOTOGRAPH/ANSON EAGLIN/97CN1032-9

## USDA Commission Issues Report on Small Farms

**T**he USDA National Commission on Small Farms sets forth recommendations for assisting small and limited-resource farmers in a new publication, *A Time to Act: A Report of the USDA National Commission on Small Farms*, now available from USDA. The report, presented to Secretary Glickman at a news conference January 22, summarizes the deliberations of the 30-member commission and outlines 146 recommendations to improve USDA’s service to small and beginning farmers in areas such as credit, risk management, research, education, rural development, marketing, and outreach.

Glickman said, “USDA is poised to

act quickly and decisively on this report, which highlights the many serious challenges that face our Nation’s small farmers.” Noting the comprehensive nature of *A Time to Act*, he continued, “...The report makes clear that small farmers have a variety of needs that must be addressed for them to be successful.... The fundamental challenge, then, is to deliver a comprehensive package of information and assistance to help small farmers not only survive, but expand.”

Glickman thanked Commission Chair Harold L. Volkmer and Commission Vice Chairs Kathleen Sullivan Kelley and Desmond Ansel Jolly, along with other members of the Commission, for their work. Noting the significance of the report, Volkmer stated, “Our Nation’s economic foundation is built on the backs of

CONTINUED ON PG. 7...

# Crop Reports and Forecasts on the Web

USDA is launching a one-stop website for easy electronic access to the latest Department crop reports and forecasts. The site, accessible via USDA's home page, features a 1998 monthly calendar showing daily listings of scheduled reports and release times. Clicking on a report takes the user directly to the document in electronic form.

The 1998 calendar includes crop and livestock reports from the National Agricultural Statistics Service, outlook and situation reports from the Econom-

ic Research Service, world trade circulars from the Foreign Agricultural Service, and supply-and-demand and crop-weather reports from the World Agricultural Outlook Board.

Users may choose from a graphic calendar format or a text-only list format. Links are provided to each agency's search engine should the user wish to search a specific report or publication.

To access the calendar, visit the USDA home page (<http://www.usda.gov>) and select "news and information" and "agency reports/schedule." The calendar also is accessible directly (<http://www.usda.gov/news/calindex.htm>). ■

## Small Farm Specialist Joins USDA



**Marilyn ("Mickie") E. Swisher**, Associate Professor with the Department of Family, Youth and Community Sci-

ences at the University of Florida-Gainesville, joined the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) Small Farm Program in January for a 1-year assignment as Small Farm Specialist. She is working with Denis Ebodaghe, CSREES National Program Leader for Small Farms, on a variety of projects.

Her responsibilities include provision of planning assistance for an upcoming small farm conference, development of recommendations for agency action on critical small farm issues, and promotion of closer small farm networks among the land-grant university system and its partners. She also will help prepare and implement CSREES' *National Small Farm Plan* and will assist in coordinat-

ing it with the recommendations of the USDA National Commission on Small Farms.

Swisher, who holds a Ph.D. in geography and soil science from the University of Florida, brings extensive experience in natural resource management and conservation to her work at USDA. Her professional responsibilities at the University of Florida include statewide leadership for extension programs in sustainable agriculture and sustainable community development as well as other duties. She is the author of a number of educational materials, including *Aquaculture as Sustainable Agriculture*, a module for use by vocational agriculture teachers, and *Evaluating Sustainability*, a series used by universities to facilitate programs in community-based sustainable agriculture.

Swisher may be reached at her office in Washington, DC, at 202/401-4900 or [mswiper@reeusda.gov](mailto:mswiper@reeusda.gov). ■

**CSREES Small Farm InfoLine**  
**1-800/583-3071**

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**I. Miley Gonzalez**, Under Secretary  
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**Colien Hefferan**, Acting Administrator  
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Readers wishing to contribute items to *Small Farm Digest* may send their submissions to Stephanie Olson, Editor, *Small Farm Digest*, CSREES, USDA, Mail Stop 2220, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington DC 20250-2220 (telephone: 202/401-6544; fax: 202/401-1602; e-mail: [solson@reeusda.gov](mailto:solson@reeusda.gov)). Information in this publication is public property and may be reprinted without permission.

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*Small Farm Digest* is available on the CSREES home page (<http://www.reeusda.gov/smallfarm>).

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## Your Small Farm Neighbor Grower's Business Is 'Mushrooming'



Shuttling between their small farm in the Ozark hills and their marketing outlets in suburban supermar-

kets and fine bistros, **Nicola ("Nicky") MacPherson** and her husband **Daniel Hellmuth** have grown and sold shiitake mushrooms successfully for 9 years. The couple grow the mushrooms on oak logs—the traditional Asian way—on 3 acres of their farm.

MacPherson's shiitake mushrooms, one of the new varieties of exotic mushroom popular today, are sold under the Ozark Forest Mushrooms label. Along with her product, she markets starter kits for beginning shiitake mushroom growers, complete with oak logs on which to grow the mushrooms.

### MARKETING TIPS

MacPherson shared product marketing tips in a presentation at the 1997 Annual Small Farm Trade Show and Conference held at the Boone County Fairgrounds in Columbia, MO, last November. Advising producers to "start small to learn how to grow your product, and then expand incrementally as you gain experience," MacPherson emphasizes the importance of building a strong customer base.

She suggests that beginning growers work with a few people to develop a customer base, aiming for five or six steady customers in addition to some who buy less frequently. "To promote sales," she says, "you must be prepared to promote your product tirelessly." To increase potential customers' familiarity with the product, she suggests offering free samples.

Reliability is also critical: "Make sure you produce enough to deliver what customers order," she cautions, "so customers understand that you can be relied upon to supply the market you have opened."

MacPherson advises growers with a top-quality product to tap into the high-end market. "Do not be afraid to contact chefs at country clubs, upscale restaurants, catering companies, and gift catalog companies," she says. "Chefs like fresh, carefully grown ingredients for meals they prepare, and catalog companies want unique, high-quality products."

High-end restaurants, MacPherson finds, constitute a more lucrative market than supermarkets. They also tend to be easier clients with whom to work. "Maintaining product quality and freshness in supermarkets poses a challenge because of the need to keep various shifts familiar with caring for and displaying the product," she points out. "Relatively high employee turnover also makes constant re-education of new workers a necessity." To aid in keeping mushrooms fresh, she says, growers may wish to prepack their produce under their own label in an appropriately designed package—perhaps with ventilation holes—for display in a refrigerated area of the store.

### ORGANIC FOOD MARKET

Another market worth exploring, MacPherson says, is that for organic foods. Organic vegetable farm cooperatives, for example, provide consumers an opportunity to buy a co-op share over a growing season and to receive fresh vegetables in return. This can mean a steady market for growers. In dealing with potential customers, she suggests, "Emphasize that your product is all-natural, fresh, and direct from your

CONTINUED ON PG. 6...

## USDA Helps Small Farmers Export Products Overseas

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) represents U.S. farmers' agricultural-industry interests abroad and offers a wide range of export programs and services. Interested small farmers' "first stop" is the Trade Assistance and Promotion Office (TAPO) of FAS' AgExport Services Division. TAPO provides information on foreign markets and government programs to help farmers access international markets.

Assistance available from the Trade Assistance and Promotion Office includes:

- Country- and commodity-specific reports that highlight favorable market prospects and other data of interest to exporters.
- Information on low-cost services—such as *Trade Leads*, *Foreign Buyer Lists*, and *Buyer Alert*—to help U.S. exporters make direct contact with foreign buyers. (For a \$15 fee, *Buyer Alert* will advertise a product in a biweekly newsletter that reaches more than 15,000 international buyers, agents, and distributors.)
- Basic counseling on exporting as well as information on appropriate USDA and/or State departments of agriculture offices to contact for assistance.
- Guidance in linking with FAS-operated export initiatives such as the Export Enhancement Program, the Market Promotion Program, and FAS credit guarantee programs.

For further information, contact the Trade Assistance and Promotion Office (telephone: 202/720-7420; fax: 202/690-1428; or TDD: 202/690-4837) or access the FAS home page (<http://www.fas.usda.gov>). ■



A wide range of resources are available to assist small farmers and ranchers and their communities. Readers wishing further information about the resources described below are asked to contact the individuals or offices listed for each item.



**The Beginning Farmer Resource Guide.** A resource to help small farmers get started in farming is available from University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. Included are factsheets on acquiring farmland, agricultural laws, environmental stewardship, financing sources, forest management, marketing, and resources. Also included are an agricultural marketing and services directory, a business development checklist, a profile of New Hampshire Agriculture, and other materials. The cost is \$7 (free for New Hampshire residents).

To order, contact the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension Publications Center, 120 Forest Park, Durham, NH 03824 (telephone: 603/862-2346; fax: 603/862-2441; e-mail: [jean.smith@unh.edu](mailto:jean.smith@unh.edu)).



## PRINT MEDIA

### **A Citizens' Guide to Food**

**Recovery.** Developed as part of USDA's food gleaning and recovery initiative, the guide is available at no cost to help Americans fight hunger through food gleaning efforts. To order, call the USDA Food Recovery Hot Line at 1-800-GLEAN-IT.

**Cultivating Farm, Neighbor, and Community Relations.** This resource is designed to help farmers and their nonfarm neighbors maintain good relationships in areas where conflicts over land-use issues may arise. The cost is \$5 plus \$3 for shipping. To order, contact the Cornell Instructional Materials Service, Department of Education, 420 Kennedy Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853 (telephone: 607/255-9252; fax: 607/255-7905; e-mail: [vbl7@Cornell.edu](mailto:vbl7@Cornell.edu)).

**Direct Marketing and Related Topics (97-02).** A bibliography containing 235 citations (1991-96) of books, articles, and videocassettes on direct marketing and related topics is available at no cost from the AGRICOLA database. For further information, contact Mary Gold, National Agricultural Library, Rm. 304, USDA, 10301 Baltimore Blvd., Beltsville, MD 20705-2351 (telephone: 301/504-6559; fax: 301/504-6409; e-mail: [mgold@nal.usda.gov](mailto:mgold@nal.usda.gov)).

**Encyclopedia of Produce.** This resource offers information on production, distribution, marketing, container sizes, and grades and standards of produce as well as historical data on a variety of commodities. The cost is \$10 for association members and \$90 for nonmembers. To order, contact the United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association, 727 North Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314 (telephone: 703/836-3410; fax: 703/836-7745).

**How You Can Buy Used Federal Personal Property.** This 4-page brochure (GSA Publication No. 318E) provides information on purchasing used government equipment and industrial items. The cost is 50 cents. To order, contact the Consumer Information Center, Dept. 318E, Pueblo, CO 81009 (telephone: 719/948-4000; fax: 719/948-9724). The brochure also is available free on the Consumer Information Center website (<http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov>).

**Leopold Letter.** The Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, based at Iowa State University, publishes this free newsletter to inform diverse audiences about the Center's programs and activities and to promote sustainable agriculture. Also available at no charge are factsheets on a variety of sustainable agriculture topics. For further information, contact the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, 209 Curtiss Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-1050 (telephone: 515/294-3711).

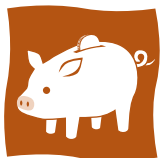


## PROGRAMS

**Butterfly Garden Program.** 1890 land-grant university Extension staff at South Carolina State University are helping students at St. James-Gillard Elementary School in Eutawville, SC, learn about nature and plant sciences firsthand through a butterfly garden program at the school. As part of the 1890 Extension Farm Safety Program, students are instructed in garden tool safety as they run a motorized garden tiller to prepare the ground for the garden. The project also includes learning components in science, environmental studies, reading, art, and music.

For further information on the program, contact Sam Felder, Associate County Agent, South Carolina State University (telephone: 803/829-2367; fax: 803/829-2394; e-mail: [felders@scsu.edu](mailto:felders@scsu.edu)). ■

*A number of grant, loan, and training programs are available to support small farmers and their communities. Examples of such programs are summarized below. Readers wishing additional information are asked to contact the individuals or offices listed for each item.*



## GRANTS, LOANS, TRAINING

**Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE).** Farmers and ranchers can apply to the SARE Program for funding of on-farm research or demonstration projects in the area of sustainable agriculture. The award amount for this competitive grants program varies from up to \$5,000 for individual grants to up to \$10,000 for groups studying market issues.

Producer grant proposals for the North Central Region SARE Program, which serves Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin, must be received by May 1, 1998. For additional information, contact Ken Schneider, Producer Grant Coordinator, North Central Region SARE, IBA Activities Bldg., University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68583-0840 (telephone: 402/472-7081; fax: 402/472-0280; e-mail: sare001@unlvm.unl.edu).

For information on SARE programs in other regions of the United States, contact Elaine Hahn, SARE, USDA (telephone: 202/720-6527; e-mail: ehahn@reeusda.gov).

### **USDA Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program.**

Designed to increase low-income people's access to fresher, more nutritious food sources, this program encourages



assessment of community strengths, establishment of linkages with appropriate groups, and creation of comprehensive approaches and systems to enhance food security in local communities. Projects are funded via one-time \$10,000-\$250,000 matching grants for 1-3 years.

The FY 1998 request for proposals soon will be accessible on the CSREES home page (<http://www.reeusda.gov>). For additional information, contact Elizabeth Tuckermanty, Program Director, Community Food Projects, CSREES, USDA, Mail Stop 2240 (telephone: 202/205-0241; fax: 202/401-5035; e-mail: etuckermanty@reeusda.gov) or Mark Bailey, Program Director, Community Food Projects, CSREES, USDA, Mail Stop 2241, Washington, DC 20250-2241 (telephone: 202/401-1898; fax: 202/401-6488; e-mail: mbailey@reeusda.gov).

**USDA Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP).** Established by the 1996 Farm Bill, WHIP is designed to help farmers, ranchers, and other landowners protect important wildlife habitat. Participants prepare and implement a wildlife habitat development plan with assistance from USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and their local conservation districts. Eligible areas include native grasslands, savannas, barrens, certain types of forest lands, riparian forests, and aquatic habitat such as rivers, streams, and adjacent streambanks, wetlands, and uplands as well as other areas.

WHIP provides cost-share

assistance for up to 75 percent of the cost of instituting wildlife habitat practices. Cost-share payments of up to \$10,000 are available for each WHIP agreement, which is in effect for a 5- to 10-year period.

For additional information, contact your local USDA Service Center or State NRCS office, or visit the NRCS home page (<http://www.NRCS.usda.gov> [select "Farm Bill"]). Questions may be directed to Jeanne Christie, National Program Leader, WHIP (telephone: 202/720-3534; fax: 202/720-2143; e-mail: [jeanne.christie@usda.gov](mailto:jeanne.christie@usda.gov)).

**Women's Agricultural Network (WAgN).** The University of Vermont Cooperative Extension's Women's Agricultural Network, funded by USDA, offers a series of educational programs to enable more women to own and operate profitable farms and agriculture-related businesses in Vermont.

Although WAgN programs are intended primarily for Vermont women, they are open to other women and men as well. A core course, "Growing Places," draws upon the expertise of local livestock and horticultural farmers as well as that of financial planners, work/family consultants, and agricultural policy experts to give participants an overview of available agricultural options.

Participants may then take a course in business planning provided by the Women's Small Business Program of the Trinity College of Vermont. Trinity College and the Center for Sustainable Agriculture at the University of Vermont play strong collaborative roles in WAgN programs.

For additional information, contact Mary Peabody, Program Director, Women's Agricultural Network, 590 Main St., University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405-0059 (telephone: 802/656-3276; fax: 802/656-8874; e-mail: [wagn@zoo.uvm.edu](mailto:wagn@zoo.uvm.edu)). ■

## Holiday Treats Promote Small Farm Products

The University of California Small Farm Center is still aglow with the spirit of giving, thanks to a pilot project it sponsored during the holiday season. The project promoted holiday gift baskets made available by Valley Harvest, a group of organic small-scale farmers in California's Yolo and Solano Counties.

The gift baskets contained a variety of farm-grown and enhanced treats such as nut butters, herbal teas, dried fruit, and shelled nuts as well as recipes and serving suggestions, a response survey form, and information on participating farmers. Also included was a brochure describing community supported agriculture—a new marketing trend in which consumers pay farmers a fee and in return are provided fresh produce during the growing season.

Assembling the baskets was Anna Martinek Brait, a postgraduate researcher at the Small Farm Center and resident of Full Belly Farm, one of 15 farms involved in the project. Brait combined products from each farm to make every gift basket unique. The project was so successful that she could barely keep up with orders, and all of the baskets were sold.

Desmond Ansel Jolly, Director of the University of California Small Farm Program, views the project as a successful venture that will soon be self-supporting. "Participating farmers were thrilled with the project's success," he notes, "and the Small Farm Center is proud to have supported a great project." For more information, contact Susan McCue, Publication Coordinator at the Small Farm Center (telephone: 530/7527849; fax: 530/7527716). ■

MUSHROOMS...CONTINUED FROM PG. 3

farm." Growers may wish to check on State requirements for authorized use of an "organically grown" seal on their product packaging.

### PROMOTING STATE-GROWN PRODUCTS

An important source of marketing assistance for some small farmers can be found in grant programs available through their State departments of agriculture. To promote State-grown products, the departments may provide small farmers with matching grants to underwrite packaging design, advertising, product recipe cards, and other costs.

Designing a label to appeal to consumers' State or regional loyalties also may enhance a product's marketability, MacPherson says. The packaging for her own product, Ozark Forest Mushrooms, capitalizes on the region where the mushrooms are grown and displays the State-authorized AgriMissouri label as well as a seal verifying that the mushrooms were grown organically.

To find out more about growing mushrooms, see the box below. For additional information about MacPherson's shiitake mushroom growers' starter kits, contact her at 4112 West Pine, St. Louis, MO 63108 (telephone/fax: 314/531-9935; e-mail: sinks@earthlink.net). ■

### MORE ON MUSHROOMS

*Basic information about mushrooms is available from a variety of sources, including:*

- *American Mushroom Institute*, One Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20001 (telephone: 202/842-4344; fax: 202/408-7763; e-mail: ami@mwmlaw.com). The Institute's free factsheet, *The Great American Mushroom*, provides nutritional information and a history of mushrooms.
- *Phillip's Mushroom Place*, 909 E. Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square, PA 19348 (telephone: 1-800/243-8644). Among the materials offered are free brochures featuring mushroom recipes and basic mushroom information for school-age children as well as a list of other publications and videos for sale.
- *Alabama A&M University Cooperative Extension System*, P.O. Box 967, Normal, AL 35762 (telephone: 205/851-5710; fax: 205/851-5840; e-mail: csabota@acesag.auburn.edu). Questions may be directed to Extension Horticulturist Cathy Sabota. Resources include the *How-To Book* (20 pp., \$3.50), *Proceedings of the National Shiitake Mushroom Symposium* (1993, \$10.00), and the *Procedure for Growing Shiitake Mushrooms* video (\$5.00).
- *The Mushroom Growers' Newsletter*, P.O. Box 5065, Klamath Falls, OR 97601 (telephone: 541/883-3719; fax: 541/883-3272; e-mail: MycoWrld@cdsnet.net; website: <http://www.cdsnet.net/Business/mushroom/>). For basic information on growing mushrooms, two websites are available: <http://www.cdsnet.net/Business/mushroom/specialty.html> or <http://www.cdsnet.net/Business/mushroom/shiitake.html>



America's small farmers. Their survival and success is not only important to their families, but to consumers, rural communities, the environment, and the global economy."

Glickman also announced the creation of a Small Farm Action Team, to be led by USDA Deputy Secretary Richard Rominger. The team, which includes heads of USDA mission areas with small farm programs, will develop an integrated strategy to assist small farmers in response to the Commission's recommendations.

## FUTURE OF SMALL FARMS

The publication conveys a positive vision for the future of small farms in American agriculture. "As small farms and farmworkers succeed in [a] nurturing environment," the report states, "not only will they continue their valuable contribution to the Nation's food supply, but they will also fuel local economies and energize rural communities all across America. In the process of flourishing, small farms will contribute to the strengthening of society, providing communities and the Nation with opportunities for self-employment and ownership of land, and providing a cultural and traditional way of life as well as nurturing places to raise families."

The report focuses on farms with less than \$250,000 in gross receipts annually on which day-to-day labor and management are provided by the farmer and/or the farm family who owns the production or who owns or leases the farm's productive assets. "Small farms have been the foundation of our Nation, rooted in the ideals of Thomas Jefferson and recognized as such in core agricultural policies," the report states. "It is with this recognition of our Nation's historical commitment to small farms that we renew our dedication to the prominence of small

## NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SMALL FARMS: POLICY GOALS

*The Commission recommends the following policy goals for a national strategy for small farms:*

1. Recognize the importance and cultivate the strengths of small farms.
2. Create a framework of support and responsibility for small farms.
3. Promote, develop, and enforce fair, competitive, and open markets for small farms.
4. Conduct appropriate outreach through partnerships to serve small farm and ranch operators.
5. Establish future generations of farmers.
6. Emphasize sustainable agriculture as a profitable, ecological, and socially sound strategy for small farms.
7. Dedicate budget resources to strengthen the competitive position of small farms in American agriculture.
8. Provide just and humane working conditions for all people engaged in production agriculture.

— *A TIME TO ACT: A REPORT OF THE  
USDA NATIONAL COMMISSION ON  
SMALL FARMS*, PP. 10-12

farms in the renewal of American communities in the 21st Century."

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Commission based its deliberations in part on testimony gathered from 200 witnesses in public hearings and meetings attended by more than 800 people. The group conducted its first hearing July 28 in Memphis, TN, and held subsequent public hearings and meetings in Sioux Falls, SD, August 21-22; Washington, DC, September 10-11; and Sacramento, CA, September 15-16. Similar meetings were held in Albany, NY, September 2; Albuquerque, NM, September 4; and Portland, OR, September 5.

## POLICY GOALS

The report highlights eight policy goals for a national strategy for small farms (see box). The goals, accompanied by specific recommendations for USDA action, emphasize recognition and support for small farms; promotion of competitive markets; outreach

through public and private partnerships; establishment of future generations of farmers; use of sustainable agriculture approaches; increased funding for government programs concerned with small farms; and provision of just and humane working conditions for persons engaged in agricultural endeavors.

For a copy of *A Time to Act: A Report of the USDA National Commission on Small Farms*, write the National Commission on Small Farms, P.O. Box 2890, USDA, Washington, DC 20013 or contact Commission Director Jennifer Yezak Molen (telephone: 202/720-0122; e-mail: [smallfarm@usda.gov](mailto:smallfarm@usda.gov)). The report also is accessible via the USDA website (<http://www.reeusda.gov/agsys/smallfarm/ncosf.htm>). ■

## SFD IS ON THE WEB

To read *Small Farm Digest*, access <http://www.reeusda.gov/smallfarm>

# UPCOMING

# EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
April 5-7	Natural Resources Income Opportunities on Private Lands Conference	Hagerstown, MD	Cindy Mason • 301/432-2767, ext. 301
April 21-22	Marketing and Value Added for Organic Products Seminar	Gainesville, FL	Ellen Huntley • 352/392-1869
April 25	Hands-On Mushroom-Growing Workshop	Salem, MO	Nicky MacPherson • 314/531-9935
April 25-26	6th Annual Sheep & Fiber Farm Tour	Washington County, NY	Kay Wagner • 518/677-3079
April 30	Management of Small Poultry Flocks Seminar	Gainesville, FL	Jacque Jacob • 352/392-5594
May 19-21	EastPack '98 Packing Show	Philadelphia, PA	Customer Service • 800/417-8646
June 3-6	Who Owns America? How Land and Natural Resources Are Owned and Controlled Conference	Madison, WI	Gene Summers • 608/262-3658

The above entries reflect information available as *Small Farm Digest* went to press. For a current list of events, see CSREES' Small Farm website (<http://www.reeusda.gov/smallfarm>). *Small Farm Digest* welcomes information on upcoming events. Please send submissions to Stephanie Olson, Editor, *Small*

*Farm Digest*, CSREES, USDA, Mail Stop 2220, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-2220 (telephone: 202/401-6544; fax: 202/401-1602; e-mail: [solson@reeusda.gov](mailto:solson@reeusda.gov)).

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**Washington, DC 20250-2220**

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